

Abstract of the Disclosure

Mounting trays for storing therein sheet-shaped recording materials are used to record thereon images. A laser exposing unit forms a latent image of an image on the recording material in an exposure process by irradiating laser. A heat development unit performs a heat development process for the recording material on which the latent image has been formed. The mounting trays the laser exposing unit and the heat development unit are disposed along upper/lower directions of an image recording apparatus in this order of image processing operations for the recording material. A length of a transport path for a recording material is short within this image recording apparatus to shorten processing time.